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HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

NO. 25—BISHOP FEILD OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

By REV. RURAL DEAN GIBBONS, LOCKPORT, N. S.

IN 1882, while visiting the village of English Bicknor, beautifully situated upon the banks of the picturesque Wye, I sauntered forth soon after sunrise to get a good idea of the parish,

the name of which I had known from boyhood in connection with one of the greatest Bishops that the mother Church in England had given to her oldest colony. Seeing an old man, calmly smoking his pipe, dressed in a clean smock-frock, I made up my mind to have a chat with him—but the little gate was not easily opened, so vaulting over it I gave "Good morning, sir" to the old man. "Wa'al now, I hain't seen any parson do that since parson Feild done it." "And who was he?" "Oh, a fine man, sir—they don't make 'em like he, now-a-days." "What happened to him?" "Oh, he went out among the In-

juns—or niggers—some outlandish folks—and he might ha' been eaten for all I know. He did wonders here—he 'stored the church, built the schools, and the teachers' house. Ah! he wur a MAN he wur!" I told the old man much about the "guide of his youth," and then "old 'ooman" and daughter were called to see a man who knew 'parson Feild.' "She (daughter) went to school to 'un,

and worked the sampler for the bed quilt they gid 'im when he went among the snow and ice, sir."

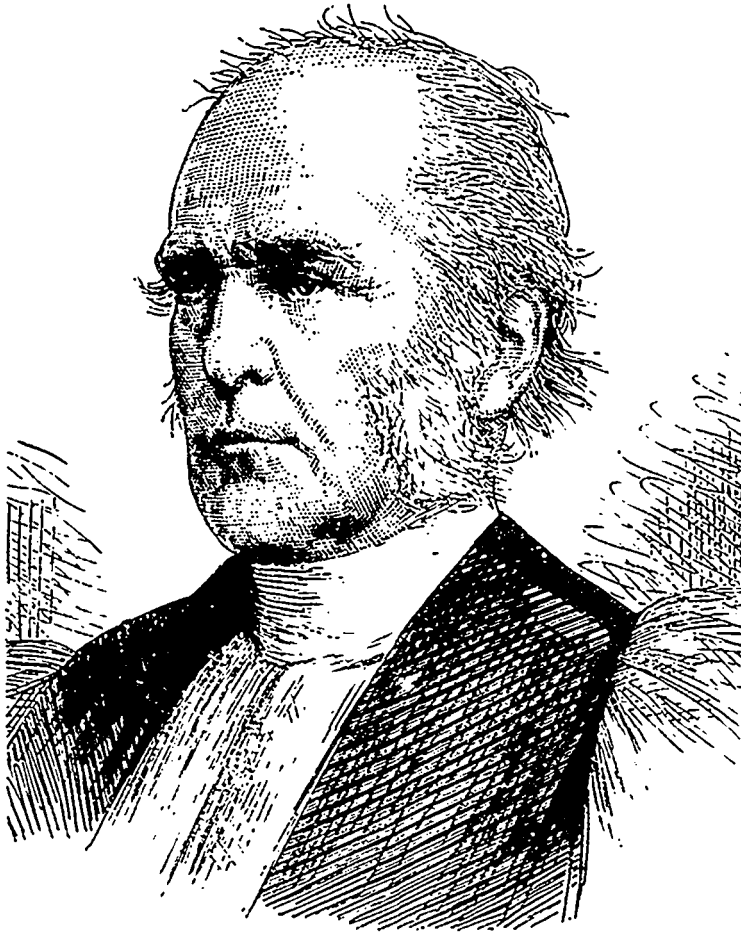
Edward Feild was born in Worcester on June 7th, 1801. He was made a deacon on May 21st, 1826, and ordained priest in 1827 by Bishop Lloyd, and appointed to the curacy of Kidlington, where he resided. Going to Oxford every morning

to give lectures at Kidlington he put a stop to the fights upon the Green which used to disgrace the pretty little village every Saturday. No doubt the fact that at Oxford he had to take his part in the town and gown rows of his day did not prove a ny hindrance to his doing so. On leaving Kidlington he was presented with a valuable piece of silver plate which adorned his sideboard and about which he was always glad to speak—memory leading him back to Oxford days when "town and gown" fights were not infrequent events.

In 1834 he was appointed to the Rectory of English Bicknor, where he spent

ten peaceful and happy years, during the latter of which he was Inspector of Education.

In 1844, upon April 28th he was consecrated Bishop of Newfoundland, and immediately sailed for his diocese, remaining at Halifax for fourteen days to take counsel with the Bishop of Nova Scotia. Upon his arrival at St. John's, he at once commenced daily service in St. Thomas' Church.



RT. REV. EDWARD FEILD, D. D.,
Second Bishop of Newfoundland.